

E. Remarks

The claims are 1-7, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claim 1 has been amended to correct an informality. Claim 2 has been amended for clarification. Support for this amendment may be found, inter alia, in the specification at page 11, lines 13-20. Claim 4 has been amended to correct its terminal punctuation. The Abstract has been amended to combine the text into one paragraph. Fig. 2 has been amended via the attached Replacement Sheet to delete reference numerals 2 and 8. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present claims is expressly requested.

The Abstract is objected to for formal reasons. Specifically, the Examiner pointed out that the original Abstract is not limited to one paragraph.

Applicants have combined the two paragraphs of the original Abstract into one new paragraph. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5). Specifically, the Examiner indicated that reference numbers 2 and 8 in Fig. 2 are not mentioned in the description.

Applicants have amended Fig. 2 by deleting reference numbers 2 and 8. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

The specification is objected to for allegedly failing to provide antecedent basis for the subject matter of claim 2.

Applicants have amended claim 2 to more clearly recite the method for obtaining the epoxy-modified phenolic resin in accordance with the disclosure in the specification at page 11, lines 13-20. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

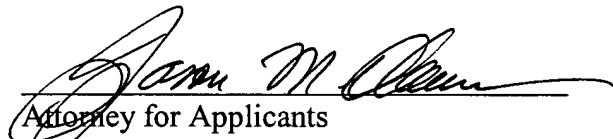
Claims 1-7 are objected to due to a minor informality.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to resolve the informality. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

Wherefore, since no other issues are outstanding in this case, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-7 be allowed and that the present case be passed to issue.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason M. Okun", is written over a horizontal line.

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C. Amendment to the Drawings

Please replace Fig. 2 with new Fig. 2 as shown in the attached Replacement Sheet.